

## The Watchman and Southron.

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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the Truc Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

## AN UNCONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Rhode Island, which was the last of the thirteen original States to ratify the Constitution of the United States shows a characteristic lack of taste and enthusiasm about the latest amendment to the Constitution. She is disposed to question its validity. A resolution is pending in the State legislature which, if approved, will call upon the attorney general to bring suit on behalf of Rhode Island before the Supreme Court of the United States, asking to have the prohibition amendment declared unconstitutional.

That amendment has already been ratified by more than the requisite number of States, and has been formally declared a part of the organic law of the nation. This seems to create the odd situation of questioning the constitutionality of the Constitution itself. This view, however, really begs the question, which is whether the amendment has any right to be in the Constitution.

The Rhode Island legislators object that congress had no right to submit such an amendment to the States, because it is of a nature tending to alter the established system of government—that the act in question is an unwarranted invasion by federal government of the police powers of the individual States.

The Supreme Court presumably has power to cast out the amendment if these grounds of criticism are proved. If Rhode Island decides to press the matter it will make a law case of rare interest. Few citizens, however, will lie awake nights worrying over the outcome. So far as a layman can see, it is a foregone conclusion that the amendment will stand.

## PICTURES OF SOLDIERS' GRAVES

The latest activity of Red Cross forces abroad is taking photographs of the graves of the soldiers abroad and sending them to their people at home. It seems, perhaps, like a small thing to do, yet it is truly a great undertaking, for the graves are many and it is hoped not to miss one.

The photographs will not be very wonderful—a little mound, a wooden cross, a wreath. The pictures will be simple. They will be simply mounted, and enclosed with them will be any little details the searchers have been able to gather about the circumstances of the soldier's death. Still they will be infinitely precious to those who receive them. For no amount of faith or patriotism ever made up for the little concrete things which comfort the heart.

Perhaps no one of its activities is a better testimonial to the greatness of the Red Cross than this simple, kindly thing, founded on an understanding of human yearnings.

## LEAGUE PROPAGANDA.

Friends and foes of the League of Nations plan are rapidly getting down to business. Definite organizations are being started, especially of those against the League, for the purpose of propaganda. "Over the country lecture tours are being arranged and printed matter is being distributed on a big scale.

Some of this activity, on both sides, is of course political in origin and spirit. Most of it, no doubt, represents the sincere hopes and fears of Americans who are honestly concerned for the welfare of their country.

As long as both sides have a full and fair hearing, this deluge of written and spoken propaganda is fortunate. It enables the open-minded citizens to familiarize themselves with the new system to which the United States is being committed, and to decide whether or not they want it in its present form or in some altered form.

One thing, however, should be carefully guarded against. That is any possible dishonesty in the presentation of the arguments pro or con. Every conscientious editor is under obligation to scrutinize any League of Nations matter offered him, to discover whether it is legitimate in origin and inspiration and accurate in point of fact. Citizens responsible for arranging public meetings to discuss the League should apply the

same scrutiny to the men offering themselves as speakers. And every organization formed to promote or oppose the League should take very good care that no question attaches to its source of income.

The people want no propaganda that is not openly and demonstrably honest.

## KOREA.

Now Japan has her Ireland. Korea, governed by Japan for several years as a protectorate, has revolted. There has been bloodshed in many cities and towns. Many Koreans have been killed or wounded. The whole country is said to be aflame. Representatives of 3,000,000 people have met and declared their independence. A Korean National Association has been organized to ask the Peace Conference for the right of self-determination, and for the aid of a friendly "mandatory" government until the nation can get on its feet politically.

Korea of all places! It is a striking evidence of the extent to which the spirit of liberty is spreading over the world, and the new vigor that it brings to nations thought hopelessly decadent.

The situation is sure to be embarrassing for Japan, just as the Irish situation is embarrassing for Great Britain. It brings embarrassment, too, to the Peace Conference, whose task is already delicate enough.

What will come of it cannot be foretold as yet. As to what ought to come of it there can be little question among those who honestly accept the basic principles of the peace settlement, with their logical conclusions.

It seems to Americans self-evident that any nation willing to strive and die for independence, and with any indication of actual or latent capacity for self-government, ought to be guaranteed its independence, and to be helped in its political development as we are helping the Filipinos. Otherwise these professions of universal democracy are nothing but hypocrisy.

## REFORM THE HEADS.

A reformatory for girls was under investigation in a western city. Among the charges brought against the superintendent, a woman, was a system of petty espionage, of drastic and unfair punishment for minor offences. She was quoted as saying that any teacher or matron who had no misdemeanor to report at the close of the day, on the part of the girls in her charge, merited suspicion herself; that it stood to reason that no girl in a reformatory would let a day go by without some misbehavior.

The teachers through whose efforts the investigation was brought about said the chief trouble lay in placing at the head of such an institution a person who had no training for the work.

In saying this they struck at a common evil. The superintendency of our reform institutions is too often decided by political or other pull, too seldom by the qualification of the individual for the job.

When the tax-payers learn to demand as the heads of such institutions persons of unshakable morality but of sufficiently broad sympathies to understand the moral failure of others, and when they demand in addition that these people shall have had training in the best known methods of reform work, we shall have reformatories which justify their name, and which safeguard society by turning back into its stream citizens who are no longer a menace, but trained to honest habits of life.

## "NO RACE DISCRIMINATION."

Japanese statesmen and publicists are demanding that the League of Nations undertake, as one of its first activities, to abolish all "race discrimination."

Precisely what the Japanese mean by the phrase is not clear. If they mean that every nation shall be obliged to receive the members of every other race in the world on terms of political, economic and social equality with its own citizens, of course they are urging an impossibility. No nation is so rashly idealistic as to sanction any such policy.

What the Japanese really want is, of course, equal treatment for themselves by white races. Some advances may be made along this line. But it is at best a slow and difficult process, persuading Europeans and Americans to accept Asiatics with the same international freemasonry they apply to each other. It may be granted that the Japanese are the highest type of Asiatics, and yet it may be impossible to give them the same welcome we give to fellow-Caucasians.

It is not, as most Japanese seem to think, a mere matter of race prejudice. The race prejudice is there, based on an instinctive feeling that East and West cannot understand each other, and will not go naturally into the same melting pot. But it is also economic. Nations with higher economic standards must pro-

tect themselves against the Coolie labor of the Orient, if they mean to hold their own.

There is not, and should not be, in any enlightened land of white men, any sound objection to receiving on equal terms Japanese whose education and training have fitted them for sharing our western civilization. The same may be said of the Chinese and other civilized races. That is all they have any right to ask. Against their less developed fellow-countrymen, whose ways are not our ways and whose assimilation would be an almost hopeless task, we have a perfect right to protect ourselves by walls of immigrant legislation.

## CONCERNING HORSES AND COWS

Winsted, Conn., famous as the native heath of natural and unnatural history, has been all wrought up lately over the problem of why a cow gets up on her hind feet first, while a horse gets up on his front feet first. The question was formally submitted to the local public in an advertisement. Here are some of the answers received and added to Winsted's long string of zoological revelations:

One scientific observer opines that a cow gets up hind feet first because she chews her cud, and doesn't want to swallow the cud. It would be interesting to have this hypothesis checked by observing how a man chewing tobacco would act in similar circumstances.

Another explains that it is all a matter of heredity. "The first cow arose hindmost first, and cows have been getting up that way ever since." But doesn't that leave the necessity of explaining why the first cow got up that way?

Again, "A cow cannot bend its forelegs; a horse can." Mebbe so. But somehow we seem to remember having seen cows bend their forelegs.

"A cow's hind legs are stronger than her forelegs." But if they are, isn't it a mistake to throw so much weight on those weak forelegs as the cow does when she is half way up?

"All animals with split hoofs get up hind end first," says another naturalist. "All animals with undivided hoofs get up front end first." Why this is so the editor does not pretend to know. And anyhow, farmers maintain that it isn't so. One farmer solemnly avers that a hog gets up front end first—or if it's a case of something to eat, both ends at once.

Coming down specifically to horses: "A horse," we learn, "is used to having a bit put into his mouth, so he gets up head first to receive the bit." Very good Dobbin, to be sure! But why do the wild ranch horses get up that way?

On the whole, Winsted proves disappointing. We had a right to expect more of her in the elucidation of so vital and congenial a problem. Surely our own citizens could do no worse.

## PROTECTING TREES AND HIGHWAYS.

The National Highways Protective Society reports progress in its work of preserving and beautifying highways. According to the society's secretary there are now nine States in which the nailing of advertisements to trees, sides of barns and fences within the limits of highways and on property of persons owning land is prohibited by law unless the owner gives special permission.

Such nailing up of signs is bad in every case from the standpoint of beauty. It is particularly bad when numerous signs are nailed to trees, for the metal is harmful to the tree's growth. Heavy nails deeply embedded in the trunks also make trouble for saws in later years, if any attempt is made to turn the trees into lumber.

This is barely a beginning. But every bit helps in the general development of public sentiment against the nuisance of the misplaced billboard and advertising sign. When property owners become public spirited enough to refuse to grant permission for the nailing up of signs on trees and fences and barns under their control, the fight will be more nearly won.

The Court of Common Pleas convened Monday with Judge Townsend presiding. Miss Edith DeLorme is acting as Court Stenographer, filling Mr. Woods' place who was painfully injured by being run over by an automobile as he was on his way to the Court House to be at his post of duty when court opened. The Court has a very heavy docket at this term, and unless there is a large number of cases continued the session will be a long one.

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9 West Liberty Street

## Thalia Dancing Club.

One of the most enjoyable affairs ever given in Sumter was the opening dance of the Thalia Dancing Club last Thursday evening. This club will give several dances throughout the summer, and has been formed as a kind of successor to the Holiday Eve Club, which was forced to disband on account of the war. The officers of the club were: J. J. Williams, president; W. H. Cullen, vice president; W. J. Blackwell, secretary; and Raymon Schwartz, treasurer. The executive committee consists of M. M. Platt, A. H. Boykin, and L. W. Brown.

The opening dance, given at the Elks' Club, was quite a success.

The grand march was formed at 9 o'clock, and dancing continued until 1, the music being furnished by Hall's Society Orchestra from Columbia. Supper was served in the dining room of the club at midnight. About fifteen couples, including several visitors, enjoyed the hospitality of the club, and are looking forward to their next dance, which will be given Easter week.

## The Health Survey.

Please allow me to thank all who have by contribution and otherwise helped to make the health survey for the schools a success. I thank you for the confidence bestowed in me by asking me to do the work for the colored schools of Sumter county. I am interested and love dearly my present work. And I am sure I shall be equally as interested and as faithful in carrying out the additional work. I thank the County Board for permitting me to take on the additional work. I realize fully that we who can "were made to serve." I am truly glad to testify again to the good feeling that always exist between the white and colored people of Sumter county. Through the untiring efforts of our most valuable Secretary, Mr. E. I. Reardon, the ladies of the Civic

League and other white and colored, our health survey is about to be a success. I know all of us are glad and especially those who contributed so liberally, viz. Mrs. Birmie, Maxwell and Mr. R. W. Westberry, Dr. J. J. Starks and others soliciting from the churches and individuals, large and small amounts, to all we are most grateful and although we have not quite reached the needed amount, \$25,000, the officers of the health survey purchased and delivered to me the sum to do my work and I have been authorized by the State Board representing Dr. L. T. Rankin to begin. We, the colored people have been the first to start is not this a most splendid evidence of their interest in our well being? Do not let us stop giving, but continue. Let us go far over the mark, for we will need correcting the defects after the examinations, and there will certainly be many who will be unable to do this. Let us help to organize health clubs so that advice from the instruction given at our meetings we may have adequate giving for this and other purposes. I again most sincerely thank all who have helped to make my facilities better for doing my work.

Let me take this opportunity to say that our County Field day has not been held. We would not think of holding it at other than the county seat. The Sumter County Field day and commencement for colored schools will be April 25th. The place for the commencement to be decided at our teachers' meeting April 5th to be held at Lincoln school, at which time Dr. R. S. Wilkinson, president of State College, Orangeburg, will speak to the teachers. All who are interested are most cordially invited to attend. We certainly hope to have a large attendance of the teachers. All information concerning our Field Day will be given out at that time.

Truly yours,  
L. Bragg Anthony, M. D.

**Automobile Association Meeting.**  
There will be several attractive features of the meeting of the local Automobile Association that is called for to-morrow night at eight at the Chamber of Commerce. The new secretary of the State Association will be present, as will Mr. O. P. Mills one of the original moving spirits in the organization of the State Association, and treasurer of the same.

Mr. R. B. Belser will tell the Association of the legislation that he tried to get through the Legislature for the building of good roads, and what he estimates will be accomplished in the near future. The meeting will be asked to consider petitioning the County Commissioners to inaugurate a section system of working the roads, and dragging the same, also to confer with Council about better light and traffic ordinances.

The officers will report for the past year, and there will be an election of officers for the current year. Any matters presented by any member will be considered. All interested are invited even though they are not members.

**Copenhagen, March 24.**—President Masaryk, of Czechoslovakia has resigned, according to a Berlin report.

**FOR SALE**—A small tract of land at the corner of the Moses Road and the road to the brick yard. Apply Davis D. Moise.

**FOR SALE**—F. O. B. cars, Camp Jackson, stable manure; very little straw. Car load lots only. Chemical and Fertilizer value rated very high by Clemson college. A. A. Strauss, Sumter, S. C.

**BEESEWAX WANTED**—Any quantity large or small. Am paying best cash price. See me if you have any. N. G. Osteen.

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